

SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL AND DISTRICT RATINGS

December 2001

Discussion Bullets

Based on preliminary analyses only

- The rigor of the absolute rating increases in 2004 and annually thereafter.
- There is a penalty in the Absolute rating for exceeding a specified percentage of students scoring below basic. No schools were affected by the penalty.
- The improvement rating schedule is approved for three years only to allow for analysis of patterns of improvement.
- There is an incentive in the improvement rating for gains made by historically underachieving groups of students. 111 schools benefitted from the adjustment (preliminary SDE data).

Absolute Rating

- 15.2 percent (168) of primary, elementary, middle and high schools earned a rating of Excellent
- 6 percent (71) of elementary, middle and high schools earned a rating of Unsatisfactory
- Two districts were rated Excellent (Lexington Five and York Four);
- Four districts were rated Unsatisfactory (Florence Four, Hampton Two, Jasper and Lee)
- Elementary schools earning an Excellent rating had an average of 11-12 percent of students scoring Below Basic; schools earning an Unsatisfactory rating had an average of 62.4 percent of students scoring Below Basic
- Elementary schools earning an Excellent rating had an average poverty index of 32.8 percent; schools earning an Unsatisfactory rating had an average poverty index of 91.1 percent
- Middle schools earning an Excellent rating had an average of 11-12 percent of students scoring Below Basic; schools earning an Unsatisfactory rating had an average of 61.9 percent of students scoring Below Basic
- Middle schools earning an Excellent rating had an average poverty index of 17.2 percent; schools earning an Unsatisfactory rating had an average poverty index of 86.5 percent
- Of the 28 schools in 7 districts identified as impaired under the EIA; only fourteen schools remain Unsatisfactory
- Of the 73 schools projected to receive technical assistance on the 2000 PACT data, 36 did not score Unsatisfactory
- Of the 31 schools added to the technical assistance list, 3 are middle schools and 28 are high schools)

Improvement Rating

- 12.2 (135) percent of schools had an Excellent improvement rate; 25.1 percent (267) of schools earned an Unsatisfactory improvement rating
- Of 130 schools with 90 percent of more students identified as living in poverty, 38 earned a Good or Excellent Improvement Rate
- Elementary schools earning an Excellent improvement rating had an average of 21.7 percent of students scoring Below Basic; schools earning an Unsatisfactory improvement rating had an average of 32.8 percent of students scoring Below Basic;
- Elementary schools earning an Excellent improvement rating had an average of poverty index of 59.3 percent; schools earning a Good improvement rating had an average index of 52.7; schools earning an Average improvement rating had an average poverty index of 71.3 percent; schools earning an Improvement rating of Below Average had an average poverty index of 64.4 percent; schools earning an Unsatisfactory improvement rating had an average poverty index of 67.4 percent

- Middle schools earning an Excellent improvement rating had an average of 39.7 percent of students scoring Below Basic; schools earning an Unsatisfactory improvement rating had an average of 41 percent of students scoring Below Basic;
- Middle schools earning an Excellent improvement rating had an average of poverty index of 76.7 percent; schools earning a Good improvement rating had an average index of 49; schools earning an Average improvement rating had an average poverty index of 60.8 percent; schools earning an Improvement rating of Below Average had an average poverty index of 59.5 percent; schools earning an Unsatisfactory improvement rating had an average poverty index of 57.6 percent
- Data in the improvement ratings reflect declines in individual student performance over two years. Other analyses demonstrate the same shift as students progress through school;

**South Carolina School and District Ratings
December 4, 2001**

Summary Tables

Preliminary Analysis of Report Card Rating Results*

**Table 1
ALL SCHOOLS (K-2 PRIMARY, ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, AND HIGH SCHOOLS)
2000-2001 School Report Card Ratings
Number and Percentage of School Report Cards**

Rating	Absolute Performance Rating Number (%)	Improvement Rating Number (%)	School Grade Number (%)
Excellent	168 (15.2)	135 (12.2)	217 (19.6)
Good	326 (29.4)	168 (15.2)	264 (23.8)
Average	321 (29.0)	215 (19.4)	274 (24.7)
Below Average	200 (18.1)	299 (27.0)	210 (19.0)
Unsatisfactory	71 (6.4)	267 (24.1)	119 (10.7)
New/Special - No Rating	22 (2.0)	24 (2.2)	24 (2.2)
Total	1108 (100)	1108 (100)	1108 (100)

Note: Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding. Some schools may have received more than one report card if the school contained more than one organizational grade level (Elementary, Middle, High).

*Based on data from the SC Department of Education, November 30, 2001.

**Table 2
K-2 PRIMARY SCHOOLS ONLY (GRADE 2 IS HIGHEST GRADE LEVEL)
2000-2001 School Report Card Ratings
Number and Percentage of School Report Cards**

Rating	Absolute Performance Rating Number (%)	Improvement Rating Number (%)	School Grade Number (%)
Excellent	22 (95.7)	8 (34.8)	21 (91.3)
Good	0 (0.0)	13 (56.5)	0 (0.0)
Average	1 (4.4)	1 (4.4)	1 (4.4)
Below Average	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Unsatisfactory	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
New/Special - No Rating	0 (0.0)	1 (4.4)	1 (4.4)
Total	23 (100)	23 (100)	23 (100)

Note: Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

*Based on data from the SC Department of Education, November 30, 2001.

Preliminary Analysis of Report Card Rating Results*

Table 3
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ONLY
2000-2001 School Report Card Ratings
Number and Percentage of School Report Cards

Rating	Absolute Performance Rating Number (%)	Improvement Rating Number (%)	School Grade Number (%)
Excellent	96 (15.7)	54 (8.9)	117 (19.2)
Good	191 (31.3)	98 (16.1)	155 (25.4)
Average	208 (34.1)	146 (23.9)	184 (30.2)
Below Average	100 (16.4)	162 (26.6)	110 (18.0)
Unsatisfactory	10 (1.6)	144 (23.6)	38 (6.2)
New/Special - No Rating	5 (0.8)	6 (1.0)	6 (1.0)
Total	610 (100)	610 (100)	610 (100)

Note: Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding. Some schools may have received more than one report card if the school contained more than one organizational grade level (Elementary, Middle, High).

*Based on data from the SC Department of Education, November 30, 2001.

Table 4
MIDDLE SCHOOLS ONLY
2000-2001 School Report Card Ratings
Number and Percentage of School Report Cards

Rating	Absolute Performance Rating Number (%)	Improvement Rating Number (%)	School Grade Number (%)
Excellent	11 (4.0)	7 (2.5)	13 (4.7)
Good	58 (21.0)	22 (8.0)	54 (19.6)
Average	91 (33.0)	63 (22.8)	61 (22.1)
Below Average	83 (30.1)	89 (32.3)	88 (31.9)
Unsatisfactory	29 (10.5)	91 (33.0)	56 (20.3)
New/Special – No Rating	4 (1.5)	4 (1.5)	4 (1.5)
Total	276 (100)	276 (100)	276 (100)

Note: Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding. Some schools may have received more than one report card if the school contained more than one organizational grade level (Elementary, Middle, High).

*Based on data from the SC Department of Education, November 30, 2001.

Preliminary Analysis of Report Card Rating Results*

Table 5
HIGH SCHOOLS ONLY
2000-2001 School Report Card Ratings
Number and Percentage of School Report Cards

Rating	Absolute Performance Rating Number (%)	Improvement Rating Number (%)	School Grade Number (%)
Excellent	39 (19.6)	66 (33.2)	66 (33.2)
Good	77 (38.7)	35 (17.6)	55 (27.6)
Average	21 (10.6)	5 (2.5)	28 (14.1)
Below Average	17 (8.5)	48 (24.1)	12 (6.0)
Unsatisfactory	32 (16.1)	32 (16.1)	25 (12.6)
New/Special - No Rating	13 (6.5)	13 (6.5)	13 (6.5)
Total	199 (100)	199 (100)	199 (100)

Note: Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding. Some schools may have received more than one report card if the school contained more than one organizational grade level (Elementary, Middle, High).

*Based on data from the SC Department of Education, November 30, 2001.

Table 6
DISTRICTS ONLY
2000-2001 District Report Card Ratings
Number and Percentage of District Report Cards

Rating	Absolute Performance Rating Number (%)	Improvement Rating Number (%)
Excellent	2 (2.3)	0 (0.0)
Good	26 (30.2)	10 (11.6)
Average	34 (39.5)	37 (43.0)
Below Average	20 (23.3)	35 (40.7)
Unsatisfactory	4 (4.7)	4 (4.7)
Total	86 (100)	86 (100)

Note: Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

*Based on data from the SC Department of Education, November 30, 2001.